*Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme.*

137. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether estimates for the various items of work connected with the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme have been completed; and

(*b*) if so, the estimated cost of the entire Scheme?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Detailed estimates are approaching completion.

(*b*) No precise figure can be stated until the estimates are completed.

*Appointments in the Secretariat.*

138. **MR. K. N. KESAVAN NAMPUTIRIPAD** (*Jenmies*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of new appointments made in the Secretariat during the last two years (1102 and 1103) and the number of fresh hands taken from other departments; and

(*b*) whether there was any special reason for taking such hands to the Secretariat from other departments and whether such appointments were made overlooking the claims of many acting hands in the Secretariat?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 16 new acting appointments were made in the Secretariat during the years 1102 and 1103. No fresh hands were taken from other departments.

(*b*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to the second part of question (*a*).

*Scheme re Minor Irrigation.*

139. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have under consideration any scheme for placing minor irrigation under more efficient control;

(*b*) if so, what are the essential features of that scheme; and

(*c*) whether they will give the Legislative Council an opportunity to discuss the merits of the scheme?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) It is premature to say anything at this stage.

*Need for a Bridge at Puvar.*

140. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that there is a long-standing public demand for a bridge at Puvar across the Neyyar river; and

(*b*) whether they have considered the matter?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a* The question of the bridge was urged both in the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*b*) An investigation had been conducted and it was reported that the bridge with approaches would cost more than Rs. 50,000. A *junghar* service meets the demand of the present traffic. The Chief Engineer is of opinion that the construction of the bridge may wait till traffic develops.

**MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*) may I know whether Government are aware that traffic has not developed because of the absence of the bridge?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): The report of the Chief Engineer after enquiry is that the traffic at present is not sufficient to justify the expenditure.

**MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know when the Chief Engineer submitted his report?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): Before November 1926.

**MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether the report was submitted after the Chief Engineer made a personal local inspection?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to say that now. I claim notice of that question.

*Director of Ayurveda.*

141. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether any officer is appointed as the Director of Ayurveda, and, if so, the date of his appointment?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Mr. K. Sankara Menon was appointed as Director of Ayurveda on the 1st Chingam 1093 and he is still the Director. Now he is on 4 months' leave and the Inspector of *Vaidyasalas* has been put in charge of the department in addition to his own duties.

*Toll-gate Contractors.*

142. **MR. REVATINAL RAMA VARMA RAJA** (*Edavagai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is with their sanction that the toll-gate contractors have put more than one barrier on the road at almost all the places where toll-gates have been sanctioned; and

(*b*) if so, the reason for allowing them when the public are complaining of the delay caused by even one gate at a place?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government have not given any such sanction, nor are they aware of the existence of more than one barrier at a toll-gate, except where there are subsidiary toll-gates. These barriers are not permanent fixtures and are removed on the approach of vehicles or animals.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

*Roads and Canals in the State.*

143. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the respective length of the roads and canals per square mile in each taluk in the State?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly